NO. 961.

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 1898.

## ALL EUROPE IS STARTLED

The Czar's Universal Peace Proposal a Big Sensation.

#### OVERTURES WELL RECEIVED

Press of the Great Powers Gener ally Pavor the Russian Emperor's Plea for a Disbandment of the Armies of the World-Humanitarian Mctives Praised, While Doubt is Expressed in Many Quarters of the Practical Success of the Proposed Conference - Pro nounced a Dream by the Park Gaulois, Which Paper Adds That It Was Impossible That Prance Was Not Consulted.

London, Aug. 29.-The Czar's appeal fo universal peace has startled all Europe It is the topic of the hour with pres and public. Diplomats and politicians are conferring in the matter and trying to find a reason for the Czar's unexpected effort to ward off calamities that threaten the world.

The London press generally approves of the Czar's proposal. The Daily News, commenting editorially on the Czar's proposal, sage that by his message the Czar has acquired a more righteous and more enduring fame than belongs to the proudest conqueror of his house. There is no quarter whence such a manifesto could come and make a more profound impres sion. He cannot be suspected of self-in terest. It may be taken for granted as a matter of course that the British gov ernment will accept the invitation to take

The Telegraph approves of the theory of disarmament, but thinks it impossible. The Times eulogizes the proposal of the Czar, and adds that whatever the issue the proposal must forthwith be discussed in a practical spirit by practical statesmen of all civilized nations.

The Standard expresses sympathy with the Czar's suggestion.

The Chronicle estimates the Czar's com munication as the most striking document of the century. It says that in view of the present attitude of Russia, it takes

Great Britain and the United States will certainly accept the proposal. It considers that France and Japan will hesitate while the other powers will assent, Ger-

The Pall Mall Gazette, discussing the Caar's peace proposal, says the Russian Emperor is determined that he will not wield his scepter in vain. The circular issued by the Czar, the paper says, is worthy of a sovereign who wields theoretically the greatest autocratic power, the Queen being the only other person of sufficient prestige to thus address the powers. Universal disarmament, says the Gazette is an idea too vast to contemplate suddenly as a practical and realizable ambition. History has rarely recorded anything more impressive, and only malice and cynicism would suggest insincerity on the part of the Czar. Russia has the power to keep peace, so why doubt her sincerity. The circular is described by the Gazette as a thunderboldt from a clear sky, but what chance, the

# Are You Satisfied?

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Perhaps I could arrange a much more satisfactory one

for you without cost. I am a dealer in insurance and know all about the leading companies, their rates,

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paper asks, has the idea to develop anything more than a pious aspiration for a beautiful but upottainable ideal?

England for Peace. Though England is for peace France is

itary uneasiness, and is guided alone by self-interest. It is not clear, either that Germany is on the side of the angels in spite of the fantastic report that the Czar's circular forestalled a similar on which the Kaiser had intended to issue from he Mount of Oliv's on the occasion of his visit to the Holy Land, Austria night fall into line and Italy also, but, the paper asks, what about the United States? Whatever the outcome, the Ga zette concludes, the imperial author of

#### the proposals has conferred further upor himself and his country.

The Globe says the Czar has achieve a political sensation that would have de lighted Napoleon III. There is no reason to doubt the sincerity of the proposal so for as the Crar is concerned but a conference to meet such a momentous proposal is unlikely unless it should be preceded by confidential pourpariers. It is doubtfuld whether Count Murayleff, the Russian foreign minister, believes in the possibility of fulfillment of the project. Any way, this philanthropic sentiment will not change England's attitude in the

Sincerity Not Doubted. The St. James Gazette says it would be unjust to attribute the Czar's move to Muscovite perfidy. It would be irra tional to decline to meet Russia of to

#### DIFFICULTIES IN THE WAY. German Newspaper Doubts the Suc

doubt her sincerity.

cess of the Crar's Efforts. Berlin, Aug. 29 .- The Cologne Gazette, in an article commenting upon the Czar's peace proposal, says it would now be rash to definitely answer the question whether the purpose of the Russian Em peror's proposal is attainable.

Neither the triple alliance nor France, the paper says, can reasonably view the proposal suspiciously, and the personality of the originator warrants every power taking the project into serious considera tion. Germany would be quite disposed entertain without suspicion Russin's idea, trusting that it would be accomplished in a strictly just and conciliatory spirit and without interference with the vital

Understanding the fundamental principles of the plan is easy, but facing the practical details is difficult. Considering the differences in the national life of each power, controlled by its geographical position and its own inner vital force, it would be difficult to find a standard to determine the proportional maximum defensive force of each state.

The hardest question, however, will be how to deal with the naval defenses, how to proportion the naval forces of one state to the land forces of another. When Germany is certain of the same degree safety with less military power, the Gazette concludes, she will gladly assent to the Czar's proposal.

### FRENCH PRESS SKEPTICAL. Czar's Proposal Approved, But Re-

garded as Only a Dream. Paris, Aug. 29. "he comments of this morning's newspa s upon the Czar's peace project are senerally favorable to the idea, though some of them intimate that the scheme is a dream, incapable of realization.

The Figure expresses doubt that the question of universal peace will ever be solved in a sense of entire civilization Le Radical recalls the fact that the Russian emperor's proposal was made upon the anniversary of the interview between the Czur and President Faure at Cronstact.

Le Petit Journal, says that France will approve unanimously the Czar's generous Initiative.

The Gaulois says that universal peace is a dream, which will never be realized and adds that it is impossible that the Czar shou'd have made such a grave proposal without consulting the French government.

The Temps and Soir make no com ments on the Czar's proposal. The Aurore, however, is enchanted by the sugrestion, and adds that it does not think Emperor William will be pleased.

#### EMPEROR WILLIAM'S ATTITUDE Alleged That He Will Cordially Sup

port the Czar. Berlin, Aug. 29.-It is understood here that Emperor William will cordially support the Czar's proposal.

Quartermaster Parker Resigns. Lexington, Ky., Aug. 29.-The resignation of Quartermaster A. M. Parker, of the Twelfth New York, has been occept-ed by the War Department, Second Lieut, Alex M. White has been recommended to succeed him. A number of officers of the out their names will not be given ou until their cases are octed on at Wash

\$10 To Ningara Falls and Re- \$10 Special train with coaches and parlor cars will leave Washington 7:55 a. m. September 1, 15, and 29. Tickets, limited to ten days, allow stopover at Buffalo, Ro-chester and Watkins returning. Annual Exposition at Toronto, August 30 to Sep.

au26,27,29,30,31pm-27,28,29,30,31am Best wheelwright oak, 4e foot:

White oak; clear, dry, seasoned, 4c. ft.

What Washington Officials Say suffering from a periodical attack of milof the Czar's Proposal.

### REALIZATION NOT LIKELY

Disarmament Would Be Followed by Anarchy in Russia, Disruption in Turkey, Revolution in Italy, and Trouble All Around.

State Department officials manifested a great deal of interest this morning in the Czar's proposition for universal disarmament to the end that there may be universal peace, but many of them seemed disinclined to regard the subject se-

"It is a very beautiful dream that his mperial majesty has had," said an official who is particularly well posted on diplomatic affairs, "but I am afraid that there is little hope of its relization.

"The Old World monarchies are compelled to maintain strong armies and navies, not so much to threaten or to make war upon each other as for the moral effect of such displays of power upon ele ments in their own population. This applies particularly to those nations which have distant and extensive colonial deendencies, but with almost equal force to others in which there is and always will be discordant elements.

"It is a fact that the police functions of the army alone have prevented an uprising in the Czar's own domain of sufficient proportions to threaten his dynasty, f not to overthrow the monarchy itself. Disarm and disbard the Russian army and there would be a revolution within year. Nihilism is a force that would leaven the whole Russian empire in a year, in the absence of the constant re pression exercised by the army.

"How long would the Sultan of Turkey be able to hold his empire together, especially along the Aslatic frontier, if he should disband his army? In my opinion would be split up into a score of minor states within six months. The smaller states would refuse to pay revenue to ple and without the force of arms tribute could not be collected.

"Then look at the conditions in France Abolish the French army and you would abolish the republic. The royalists have been kept in restraint solely because the could not cope with the army. They have naintained their own organization and there have been times when it seemed as if they had a chance of overthrowing the present form of government, despite the rmy. Take away the restraining force and within a year you would find the royalists intrenched at Versailles.

"If Spain should dismiss her army an throw their munitions of war into the sea, the Carlists would take possession of the throne instanter, for only the army has prevented them thus far from un seating the little boy who now wields the scepter.

"Italy is nearly ripe for a republicaform of government and the conditions would become fully ripe within a year after the disarmament was accomplished. And the revolution may come at

"Does anybody suppose that England would be able to hold India without men

"It's all a beautiful dream, but as long as the earth is inhabited by human beings I cannot believe it will be realized."

#### GENERAL WHEELER SPEAKS. Will Try to Save Life Regardless o

Red Tape. Camp Wikoff, N. Y., Aug. 29.-Capt. Higgins, chief of the Signal Corps, gave out the following statement from Gen.

"I took particular pains to say nothing that was not complimentary to Commis sary General Eagan.

"General Orders No. 116 allows the nedical officer in charge of the hospital at Montauk Point to purchase food for sick soldiers not to exceed 60 cents per

the sick in camp who are not in hospi als. About two thousand are so report ed, and the regimental and medical offi-cers of the various commands reported to me that nearly all were in a condition such as to need a change of diet which was provided for them by my

sary for the health—and possibly the lives—of some of the sick

ospital.
"I have been ordering, and shall continue to order, that these articles be purchesed and issued to them. I shall continue this so long as the necessity exists, or until I am ordered to desist y an authority higher than mine

by an authority higher than mine."

This is the only reply which the general cares to make to an interview that he says was garbled, in which he was made to charge Commissary General Eagan with being responsible for the lack of hospital supplies which Gen. Wheeler had ordered for sick troops. His orders were stopped by the commissary general because of some technicality. cause of some technicality.

Newark, N. J., Aug. 29.-Last night a lump exploded in the finishing room of the New York Chemical Company. When the explosion occurred Prof. Charles Richardson was experimenting with ni-Richardson was experimenting with ni-trate thorium, used in the manufacture of gas mantels. The burning oil soon communicated with the vast amount of chemicals stored and finished in the house. Before the Newark engines ar-rived the entire plant had been burned to the ground. The leboratory was saved. The loss on stock and machinery will be \$5,000 and on the building \$5,000.

Welsh Miners' Strike Ends. ing colliers at Merthyr Tydvil, G'amor ganshire Wales, today agreed to accept the terms offered by the associated em-ployers, which make an advance of 5

Plynn's Business College, 8th and K, Business, shorthand, typewilling-125 a yr. Think of us asking one ic ft. for best clear, white, when wright or

## CAMP WINOFF TO REMAIN.

Present Intention to Abande That Military Site. There is to be no removal of Camp Wikoff. Adjt. Gen. Corbin said this morning that it was selected originally because of its solated situation and the supposed healthfulness of the location.

"It was always intended," he said, "to be used for a convalencent camp, not a permanent one. The plan is to let the saidlers there evadually recusoldiers there gradually recuperate through the best attention that can be given them. This is now being done in a most thorough manner and I think there will be no more complaints. With the recovery of the men will fol low, first, the gradual mustering out of the State troops, who will go home. The regulars will be sent to our different army

There is all that is necessary for them at the regular army posts. "You will see," concluded Gen. Corbin, "that Camp Wikoff will be gradually and not suddenly abandor

oosts as soon as their condition permits

Lieut, Gov. Jones, of Ohio, was among the carly callers on Secretary Alger today. He came to plead for the Fifth Ohio, the celebrated Western Reserve Regiment The Beutenant governor stat. ed that all of Ohio is in a rage of indigsoldiers who are kept at Fernandina

"They are not only half eaten up with disease, but they are tormented to death with mosquitoes, swamp flies and wood ticks.

too bliter. I fear, to be made public." Lieut, Gov. Jones was very earnest in his language with Secretary Alger, the result being that he obtained the furlough of the troops that he asked for. The Ohio men will now go home and i thought their early mustering out will

#### DEWEY REMAINS ON GUARD. No Present Necessity Exists for His Presence in Washington.

Admiral Dewey is to remain at Manila, by his own request, notwithstanding a report from Madrid that he would return to America at an early date.

The President at one time recently seri ously contemplated asking Admiral Dewey to return, but it is now admitted at the Navy Department that he will re main at Manila, the re-establishment of the cable service enabling him to communicate most satisfactorily at all times both with Washington and Paris.

The long time necessary for Admiral Dewey to reach Paris to confer with the members of the Peace Commission was taken into consideration with his own reluctance to leave the Philippines.

Concerning the rumor that Gen. Merritt is to be recalled to confer with the Peace Commissioners, Secretary Alger, who was at his desk this morning, said: "I know absolutely nothing bout Gen. Merritt's recall."

## Secretary Alger declares he has fully re-covered from the attack of dysentery he acquired while inspecting Camp Wikoff. DEWEY CALLS FOR SUPPLIES.

Asks That Stores Be Replenished

Before Getting Too Low. A cablegram was received at the Navy Department today from Admiral Dewey requesting the Navy Department to for-ward supplies for his squadron. He stated that he had supplies on hand for one month, but desired to have the

#### department replenish his stores before they got too low. HONORED BY THE QUEEN.

Ambassador Hay Dines at Osbors London, Aug. 19 .- Col. John Hay, United States ambassador, will dine with the

### queen at Osborne this evening. POLLING THE TROOPS.

New Jersey Volunteers Vote to Re-Sea Girt, N. J., Aug. 29.-The poll of the four regiments at Camp Voorhees, to ascertain whether the soldiers want to stay in the service of Uncle Sam or come home is going on. The governor has a far the greatest majority of the members of the Second New Jersey Regiment are anxious to come home. Judge Advocate General Meaney, of Newark, and Col. Oliphant, the governor's alde, are polling General Meaney, of Newark, and Col. Oliphant, the governor's aide, are polling the other regiments. They are on their way to Dunn Loring, Va., to poll the First Regiment. Then they will go to Pompton Lake to poll the Third Regiment. It is expected that 75 per cent of the volunteers want to return home. It was all the out of four regiments will be is said two out of four regiments will be banded going to Sea Girt camp grounds, where they will be mustered out. The First and Fifth regiments will probably

#### remain in the service. EGAN DESIRES AN OFFICE.

Sword-Bearer of Dublin. Dublin, Aug. 29.-The town clerk of has received intimations from America that James F. Egan, who is now in the United States, intends to obtain the nomination or the office of sword bearer and is elected to arizve in Dublin shortly to be an a canvass for the

an was arrested on April II, 1884 upon a charge of treason felony, of which he was convicted. He was sentenced to was convicted. Hs was sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment, but was lib-erated on January 19, 1893. Egan was as-sociated with John Daly, who lived with him in Birmingham. Daly was arrested at Birkenhead on the same day that Egan was taken into custody, with two bombs in his poss-seion. He was sen-tenced to imprisonment for life, but was released on August 13, 1896.

Transatiantic Stramer Gverduc. London, Aug. 3.—The Atlantic transport liner Cleopatra which sailed from New York, August 15, for this port has not yet been reported.

One Fare to Cinchanti and Retur For the National Encampment, G. A. R., excursion tickets to Cincinnati and return will be sold September 3, 4 and 5, at rate of \$14.00, good to return September 6 to 13; extension can be secured to October 2. For further information, apply

The Weather-Libber & Co. say-

First Battalion, District Volunteers, Landed.

### ONE DEATH ON THE VOYAGE

Private Beliman, of Company B. Succumbs to Typhoid Fever on the the Venuel-Colonel Harries, Major Urell, Captain Dudley and Lieutenants Mayer and Field Came With the Minnewaska-List of the Sick in Company G-Washington's

Camp Wikoff, Montauk Point, Aug. 29 .-Only one transport, the Minnewaska, arrived today, bringing the First Battalion, District of Columbia Volunteers. A half dozen others are on the way, and some are known to be so near that they will

reported as fairly good, though there are forty-nine sick with malaria and dysentery. There was only one death on the trip. That was Private Bahlman, of Company B. District of Columbia Guards. who died from typhold fever. There is no contagion aboard the ship.

The names of the sick in Company G ire as follows: Second Lieut. L. W. Perron, Corp. Fred Kimmell, Privates H. B.
Waldron, R. S. Claiborne, J. W. Clark

The chairman of the committee was not able, for want of time, to consult individually all those who have been nam. and C. E. Cross.

In addition to Col, Harries the following officers return on the Minnewaska; Major Urell, Coplain Dudley, Lieut, Muyer, Lieut, Field and Adjutant D. V. Chisho'm.

Hospital tenders are alongside the transport unloading the boys. There is nothing alarming in the few cases of sickness, and the District troops are in high spirits at the prospect of soon being again in Washington.

They cheered and shouted as the steam er came to anchor in quarantine, and gave every evidence of delight at seeing faces of several old friends about them

There were only four deaths in the camp this morning. They were Private William Boyle, Battery F. Second Artillery, malaria; Private Timothy Donovan, Battery F. Second Artillery, malaria; Private Fred Miller, Company A, Twenty-first Infantry, dysentery; Private Ed. ward Hale, Company E, Eighth Infantry, HASTINGS.

## WASHINGTON'S WELCOME.

The Finance Committee Is Appoint-

ed This Afternoon. Major Sylvester, the chief of police, toselect committee which was sent to Montauk Point, Long Island, to investigate the needs and condition of the District of

Columbia volunteer soldiers. The report is encouraging, and states that the condition of the regiment is satisfactory, and that the troops need nothing in the way of supplies at present. The telegram is as follows:

Camp Wikeff, Montauk Point, August 28. Major Richard Sylvester, Washington, D. C.: After careful examination Dr. Johnson pro nounces the condition of the District men to be highly satisfactory, with their present needs am-ply satisfied. Mr. George C. Lewis, of the Red Cross, secured from that society a load of delicacles, which were delivered in camp this after-JAMES E. BELL.

The committee of arrangements, of which Major Sylvester is chairman, will meet in the red parlor of the Ebbitt House at \$ o'clock this evening. It will be the inaugural meeting of the commiltee and matters of great importance will be discussed. Every member of the committee has taken a profound interest in the matter of the reception, and a number at the meeting this evening.

Major Sylvester is working diligently in order to make the reception one of the most memorable events ever held in this

One of the features of the enterpris will be the relief which will be given to the needy fumilies of some of the men who deft their homes to fight for their

The financial part of this matter cannot of course, be underraken until the fitions, but Major Sylvester is anticipat ing the work to be done and will soon appoint a committee to look after such amilies as are in need, so that when will be lost in expending it advantage ly. This committee will be known as the sleet committee of investigation on re-Mef. Until the present the only member appointed is Mr. Edward J. Roach, of the Printing Trades Council, who will investigate cases of need among the families of printers who went to the

A second committeeman will be an pointed to investigate in the Government departments and a third will investigate

at large.

Mr. John Joy Edson, the chairman of the finance committee, spent a great deal of his time today in working upon the fiscal part of the undertaking.

The matter of the appointment of his committee consumed considerable time,

and the mapping out of the methods of Mr. Edson stated this afternoon that the voluntary subscriptions received thus far aggregate more than a thousand dollars. This is an exceedingly gratifying show-

Any thickness of wheelwright onk,

1, 11-2, 2, 3, 4 inches, clear, white, 4c. ft.

ing, when no soliciting has as yet been done by the committees. The desire to give and contribute to the cause seems to be so general and sponta-neous, that it is thought that the money will pour into the coffers of the finance committee

Dispatches received in Washington to day announce the arrival of an additional battalion with Col. Harries and his staff

ries telegraphed to his wife in this city stating that he was feeling as well as Commissioner Hoss today received a elegram from Fernandina stating that about sixteen of the District boys are at that point and that they are desirous of joining their regiment at Montauk Point. When the District Regiment was at Tampa some of the men were detached from their companies and attached to the am-

bulance corps and other branches of the service in Florida. Mr. Ross thinks that matters can be arranged so that these men may be transferred back to the District Regiment and he will make such a request of Surg.

Gen. Sternberg.

The following is a complete list of the subscriptions to the fund to provide a suitable welcome to the District of Columbia Volunteer Regiment, received by John Joy Edson, chairman finance com-

The Post, \$100; George W. Driver, \$10; Chomas C. Taylor, \$5; H. A. Dobson, M. D. 12; Washington Market Company, 150; W. W. Rapley, 110; S. A. Jaisohnn, 12; probably be sighted before night. The Minnewaska got in at 6:39 o'clock. She left Santiago August 23. There were also 297 horses on board.

The men are under the command of Col. Harries, of the District of Columbia Guards. The health of the men is Dickson. 5: Robert Reyburn. 510: Marion 10: Mario Dickson, 55; Robert Reyburn, \$10; Mariot Duckett, \$10: John W. Ross, \$100: W. H. Duckett, 110; John W. Hoss, 1100; W. Hoss, 1500; W. H. Stoutenburgh, 15; Cotter T. Bride, 15; Michael B. Scanlon, 15; Rachael C. Levy, 11; John Joy Edson, 125; Woodward & Lothrop, 1100; Mrs. W. T. H. King, 120; Rufus H. Thayer, 110; Samuel T. Scott, 15.

> unced this afternoon For the purpose of having a central place at which to make subscriptions the daily newspapers and the bankers have been designated on the committee.

The committee on finance was an-

ed, but assumes that they will be glad to thus assist in perfecting arrangements. The committee is as follows: The Evening Star, the Washington Post, The Washington Times, E. South-ard Parker, National Metropolitan Bank;

Clarence Norment, Central National Bank; Charles C. Glover, Riggs' Na-tional Bank; A. F. Fox, Columbia Na-tional Bank; Charles J. Bell, American Secutify and Trust Company; E.L.John-son, Citizens' National Bank; S. Thomas Brown, Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank; Jesse B. Wilson, Lincoln National Bank of Charles A. James, National Bank of Washington; John E. Herrell, National Capital Bank: Thomas R. Jones, National Safe Deposit Company: Matthew G. Em-ory, Second National Bank: George C. Hemming, Traders National Bank: F. C. Stevens, West End Bank; F. H. Smith, Union Savings Bank; Will-iam Oscar Roome, American Savings Bank; Thomas Somervile, Archibial Greenlees, S. W. Woodward, Iradore Saks, Samuel Bieber, James F. Oyster, Louis P. Shoemaker, W. J. Stephenson, William A. Porterfield, James L. Nor-ris, George W. Evans.

#### SIGNAL CORPS MEN COMPLAIN. Reports Alleging Official Tyranny

Received in Great Number. Complaints continue to reach the War Department from soldiers and their friends. The latest statements come from members of the Signal Corps, who declare that they have been subjected to the tyranny of petty officers. Gen. Coridly as possible. In the case of the Signal Service men attached to the Seventh Army Corps, now near Jacksonville, the specific charge is mude that Capt, Howard A Giddings has refused to forward the letters of the men because they were known to contain requests for their dis-

Under military law the officers have the right to delay forwarding any communications which they do not approve and it is this prerogative which they have ex-

ercised in these instances. Members of the Signal Corps thronged the halls of the War Department this morning. "We would like to tell what we know," sald a sergeant, "but dare not. We want to go home with good records. and therefore will take no chances of incurring the enmity of commissioned offi-We worked hard from the start and in the worst climate and weather imaginable, and even when last week volunteers were called for some of us vol-

unceered to go to Cuba." It is supposed that a number of the Signal Corps now in Washington will eave with Admiral Schley this week. Gen. Corbin admits the receipt of complaints by wire and will cause their imnedlate investigation.

### INVITED BY GENERAL LEE. Secretary Alger Asked to Visit the

Seventh Army Corps. Secretary Alger has received a letter from Major Gen. Lee, commanding the Seventh Army Corps, inviting the Secretary to visit the camp at Jacksonville, Secretary Alger replied that at presen he cannot spare the time to visit Jacksonville or other camps, which he would like very much to do, but stars he win

go if an opportunity offers later. On Saturday next the Secretary w'll ent when the latter inspects the troops at Montauk.

International Cricket Match. Merion Cricket Grounds, Philadelphia Aug. 29.-The international cricker march etween the Gentlemen of Philadelphia and a Canadian team opened at noon to day under favorable weather conditions. A fair crowd is in attendance. The

Americans won the cose obtaining the first advantage of the match-first innings on a nearly perfect wicket. J. B. King and N. Z. Graves were the first two batters for the Americans. Accident to the Troop Train. Birmingham, Ala., Aug. 29.-No ther deaths have resulted from last night's wreck of the Sixty-ninth New night's wreck of the Sixty-ninth New York Regiment near this place. The total death list to date is four. Sergt. Man-ning is suffering from compound frac-ture of the spine and cannot recover. The others are doing well. About half a dozen are the infirmary and the re-mainder at hotels.

It's the best wheelwright oak

# ALGER SHIFTS THE BLAME

ONE CENT

The Secretary of War Reflects On Corps Commanders.

## SAYS HE IS GUILTLESS

He Declares That Generals Coppin ger, Brooke, Wade, Breckenridge and Graham Either Neglected Their Duty or Deliberately With-

One result of the statements made to he newspaper men by Secretary of War Alger, declaring that the reports of sickness and stravation among the American roops in their various camps have been greatly exaggerated, and that buses as have occurred are the fault of individual commands, will undoubtedly be a series of decidedly interesting in whom severe reflections have been cast by the Secretary of War are of high rank and are likely to demand a thor-

ough inquiry. Secretary Alger already intimated in an interview with a Times reporter that Gens. Coppinger, Brooke, Wade, Breckenridge, and Graham had either neglected their duty to keep the department informed as to the true condition of their camps, or had deliberately withheld the

"Gen. Coppinger," said the Secretary, "never let us know that there was any sickness at Tampa. When the newspapers began to publish stories of the outbreak of yellow fever there we telegraphed for a statement of the facts upon the receipt of which orders were given to move the troops to a more healthful location. Gen. Coppinger is a regular army officer, and is supposed to understand his duties. One of his duties certainly was to inform the War Department of the exact

"The Medical Department and its chief should not be held responsible for not knowing of the outbreak of fever among corps commanders, who report directly to the Secretary of War through the adjutant general. We got no report of sickness at Tampa until we telegraphed to Gen. Coppinger for it.

"The same remarks will apply to Camp Thomas, Chickamauga, No reports of illness came from Genera's Brooke, Wade or Breckenridge, all of whom are regular army officers and all of whom were successively in command of that camp. The only information we had came from the newspapers, until the sickness at tions as to occasion alarm, when we telegraphed for and received official reports. Orders to remove the corps from Camp Thomas to a more healthy spot were issued immediately. It would have been better, of course, if we had received the information earlier, but the department did the best it could when it learned the

true state of affairs." The Secretary said that Gen. Graham, at Camp Alger and Gens. Wheeler and Young, at Montauk Point, had all sent reports that their respective camps were in good condition, and if the facts were otherwise the department had no means bin has been advised of a number of out- of knowing it. Secretary Alger was decidedly emphatic when he said that the corps commanders were directly responsible for the condition of their camps, and that there was no reason why any camp that had been established should not have been kept in such a manner as to have protected the healthh of the

troops. vidually also, he said, for the food and other supplies required by their men. The department had filled every requisition that had been made. If the supplies were inadequate or of an inferior quality the department should have been notified by the corps commanders, but no such complaints had been made.

Secretary Alger was very complimentary in his remarks concerning the camp of Gen. Fitzhugh Lee at Jacksonville, where the sick and death rate had been lower than was the natural percentage of a similar number of men in the cities known to be the most healthful in Amer-He refterated his statement that the

published stories of suffering and death from sturvacion at Montauk Point and other camps were gross exaggerations. There may have been some hardshos at the start, he said, but that was unavoidable, and at any rate the soldiers had received much better care and had suffered tess than had the Union troops during the war of the rebeltion Secretary Alger was asked how it was thist army surgeons in making official

reports of deaths in the camp at Montauk Point had attributed them to exhaustion due to starvation, if there had been no starvation. To this he replied that he nowspapers and would pay no attention to them. In fact, he h. . no means of knowing that any such reports had been Secretary Alger endeavored to hold Gen. Shafter blameless for the sickness

the led to the surrender and to relieving the distress among the American troops in the trenches. The truth is that Gen. Shafter wanted to fall back after the first day's flerce battle near Santiago, and that he ap-pealed to the President for a modification of the order for unconditional surrender, his purpose being to permit the Spanlards to evacuate Santiago and pro-

among the troops at Santiago, declaring

that it was to Gen. Shafter's courage in

forcing the assault upon Santiago that

eed to the interior carrying their arms It was the firm stand of the President himself that won the fight. At 3 o'clock in the morning the President cabled orders that no modification of the uncondilonal surrender decree would be per-nitted and that an assault upon Santiago by land and sea must be commenced im-mediately. When the Spaniards were no-tified of the President's orders, Cervera at once tried to escape from the harbon

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and Toral then gave up the city.